

the disordered Si(111)  $1 \times 1$  surface. Then the observation of  $\text{SiH}_4$ , a stable species in the gas phase, on the (311) surface should be taken as evidence of the existence of the  $\text{SiH}_3$  surface phase.

Another important observation is that the obtained energy distribution in the field evaporation of Si is wide, almost 35 eV (half-width at half-maximum), compared to an energy spread of less than 10 eV in the case of a metal in the dc evaporation mode.<sup>17,20</sup> This striking difference may be a result of the fact that field penetration at the semiconductor surface is very large compared to that at a metal surface where the screening length is an angstrom or so.<sup>24</sup> The energy distribution in field evaporation is of great interest and is the basic quantity for developing a good field-evaporation theory.

In conclusion, we have demonstrated the unique capability of a magnetic-sector atom-probe FIM to give important results in a semiconductor-surface study. Using Si emitters we have detected and identified silicon  $\text{Si}^+$ , silicon monohydride  $\text{SiH}^+$ , silicon dihydride  $\text{SiH}_2^+$ , and silane  $\text{SiH}_4^+$  as field-evaporation products from various surface regions. These observations can be taken as evidence for the formation of silicon dihydride and trihydride surface phases upon their interaction with hydrogen as well as the monohydride surface phase.

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## Cluster Mean-Field Theory of Spin-Glasses

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In view of the large amount of experimental evidence in support of a cluster description of the spin-glasses, we propose and solve a mean-field model of these systems in which dynamical clusters are the basic entity. The model can explain an important and unresolved puzzle: why the susceptibility has a cusp at a freezing temperature  $T_c$ , while the specific heat has a rounded maximum at a significantly higher temperature.

One of the most puzzling features of the spin-glasses (dilute alloys such as  $\text{CuMn}$  and  $\text{AuFe}$ ) is their "dual" nature: Measurements of the stat-

ic low-field susceptibility  $\chi$ ,<sup>1</sup> Mössbauer splitting,<sup>2</sup> and muon-precession rate<sup>3</sup> suggest that these alloys exhibit a sharp phase transition at

a freezing temperature  $T_c$ . Thermoelectric power,<sup>4</sup> resistivity,<sup>5</sup> and magnetic specific-heat<sup>6</sup>  $C_m$  measurements do not reveal any anomalies at  $T_c$ . Moreover,  $C_m$  generally has a broad maximum at a temperature  $T_c$  about 20–40% above  $T_c$ . Theoretical approaches to a study of the spin-glasses have been equally divided and only partially successful. Mean-field theories<sup>7,8</sup> lead to sharp anomalies in both  $\chi$  and  $C_m$ . Also inconsistent with experimental observations are the cluster theories<sup>9,10</sup> based on the notion of thermal blocking of rigid clusters of spins. While these can explain some hysteresis effects<sup>9</sup>—the magnitude of the zero-temperature resonant magnetization<sup>10</sup> and field-sensitivity experiments<sup>10</sup>—they predict<sup>9</sup> a rounded peak in  $\chi$ . The cluster percolation theory of Smith<sup>11</sup> yields a cusp in  $\chi$ , but the behavior of  $C_m$  near  $T_c$  is indeterminate.

The purpose of this Letter is to propose a simple model for the spin-glasses which incorporates both the mean-field-theoretic and cluster notions. In this way, it is shown how a sharp cusp in  $\chi$  can appear at  $T_c$ , while at the same time the specific heat exhibits a broad maximum at a higher temperature. In contrast to previous *rigid-cluster* theories,<sup>9–11</sup> we emphasize here that the internal dynamics of the clusters are important and play an essential role in determining the behavior of  $C_m$ .

The cluster model Hamiltonian is given by

$$H = - \sum_{\nu < \lambda} J_{\nu\lambda} \vec{S}_\nu \cdot \vec{S}_\lambda - \sum_{\nu} \sum_{i < j} J_{ij}^0 \vec{S}_{i\nu} \cdot \vec{S}_{j\nu}, \quad (1)$$

where  $J_{ij}^0$  is the intracluster exchange constant and  $J_{\nu\lambda}$  the randomly distributed intercluster exchange constant. In order for the cluster concept to make sense, the former interactions are assumed stronger than the latter. Greek indices refer to a particular cluster and Roman indices

to a given spin within that cluster. Here  $\vec{S}_\nu = \sum_i \vec{S}_{i\nu}$  is the total spin of a cluster. Thus the first term in the Hamiltonian describes interactions between clusters while the second refers to intracluster interactions. We assume that  $J_{\nu\lambda}$  is independent of the spin indices  $i$  and  $j$ . This is justified provided the clusters are sufficiently far apart so that the intercluster exchange interactions are insensitive to the location of the spins *within a cluster*. For simplicity we take the clusters to be identical in size and shape. These then represent the average cluster in the alloy. The effects of including a distribution of cluster sizes within mean-field theory (in which all but one cluster is averaged over) are quantitative rather than qualitative. These will be discussed below. The model may be justified from a phenomenological point of view. A rather complete list of experimental support for it is given in Ref. 10. Microscopically, one may view the clusters as units of spins which are spatially interconnected and therefore strongly correlated. While these will occur in any statistically random arrangement of impurities, chemical clustering, which is usually present, will enhance their effects.<sup>12</sup> As in the theory of Edwards and Anderson<sup>7,8</sup> (EA), the intercluster exchange interactions which are given by a near-neighbor Gaussian distribution,

$$P(J_{\nu\lambda}) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} J^{-1} \exp(-J_{\nu\lambda}^2/2J^2), \quad (2)$$

are treated within a random-mean-field theory. The intracluster interactions, however, are treated exactly.

The free energy is calculated with use of the replica method, which is believed to be reliable for temperatures at and above  $T_c$ . It is this temperature region which we will focus on here. We find that

$$F = -kT \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} n^{-1} \left[ \int \Pi dJ_{\nu\lambda} \text{Tr}_n \exp(\beta \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\nu < \lambda} J_{\nu\lambda} \vec{S}_\nu^\alpha \cdot \vec{S}_\lambda^\alpha - \beta \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\nu} H_{cl}^{\alpha\nu}) \Pi P(J_{\nu\lambda}) - 1 \right], \quad (3)$$

where the intracluster Hamiltonian is

$$H_{cl} = - \sum_{i < j} J_{ij}^0 \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j \quad (4)$$

and where the trace is taken over  $n$  replicas labeled  $\alpha$  of the actual system.

To evaluate the integral in (3), a mean-field approximation of the intercluster interaction is used so that commutators like<sup>7</sup>  $[\vec{S}_\nu \cdot \vec{S}_\lambda, \vec{S}_{i\nu} \cdot \vec{S}_{j\nu}]$ , etc., with  $\nu \neq \lambda$ , are set equal to zero. Our mean-field decoupling of the resultant expression for  $F$  introduces two variational parameters:  $q = \langle \vec{S}_\nu^\alpha \cdot \vec{S}_\nu^\beta \rangle$  for  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , and  $M = \langle \vec{S}_\nu^\alpha \cdot \vec{S}_\nu^\alpha \rangle$ . The former is analogous to the usual EA spin-glass order parameter. It differs only in that  $S_\nu$  denotes the cluster spin rather than the spin of one impurity atom. Here  $M$  is the total spin of each cluster; in the EA theory the analogous parameter is a (nonvariational) constant. Follow-

ing Refs. 7 and 8, we find that the free energy per cluster is

$$F(q, M) = -kT \left\{ [\bar{J}^2/12(kT)^2](q^2 - M^2) + (2\pi)^{-3/2} \int d^3r e^{-r^2/2} \ln \text{Tr} \exp(-\beta H^{\text{eff}}) \right\}, \quad (5)$$

where

$$-H^{\text{eff}} = \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \vec{S}_{i\nu} \cdot \vec{S}_{j\nu} + \bar{J}(q/3)^{1/2} \vec{r} \cdot \vec{S}_\nu + (\bar{J}^2/6kT)(M - q)\vec{S}_\nu \cdot \vec{S}_\nu. \quad (6)$$

Here  $\bar{J} = z^{1/2}J$  with  $z$  the number of cluster near-neighbors of a given cluster. In deriving (5) we have used the fact that all three terms in the effective cluster Hamiltonian  $H^{\text{eff}}$  commute with one another. The physical interpretations of the various contributions to  $H^{\text{eff}}$  are as follows: The first term is the intracluster exchange; the second represents the interactions of the random anisotropy field with the spins in the cluster. This field arises because of intercluster interactions and its strength is given in terms of the order parameter  $q$ . The third term is an effective ferromagnetic intracluster exchange term which also derived from intercluster interactions. In the usual mean-field theories, this is a  $c$ -number and is combined with the first term in Eq. (5).

The order parameters  $q$  and the cluster moment  $M$  are derived variationally by using  $[\partial F(q, M)/\partial q]_M = 0$  and  $[\partial F(q, M)/\partial M]_q = 0$ . This yields the coupled equations, with  $Z \equiv \text{Tr} \exp(-\beta H^{\text{eff}})$ :

$$M = (2\pi)^{-3/2} \int d^3r e^{-r^2/2} \text{Tr}(\vec{S}_\nu \cdot \vec{S}_\nu e^{-\beta H^{\text{eff}}})/Z \quad (7)$$

and

$$M - q = (2\pi)^{-3/2} \int d^3r r e^{-r^2/2} (3/q)^{1/2} (kT/\bar{J}) \text{Tr}(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{S}_\nu e^{-\beta H^{\text{eff}}})/Z. \quad (8)$$

When a distribution of cluster sizes is included we find that these equations are easily modified.<sup>13</sup> Because our numerical results (see below) show the same qualitative behavior for all cluster sizes we will consider, for simplicity, the distribution to be sharply peaked about some value  $N$ . Both the static susceptibility  $\chi$  and the specific heat  $C_m$  per cluster may be calculated in terms of  $M$  and  $q$ ,

$$\chi = g^2 \mu_B^2 (M - q)/3kT, \quad (9)$$

where  $g\mu_B$  is the magnetic moment of an impurity atom. The specific heat is given by a sum of two terms, i.e.,

$$C_m = C_m^{\text{inter}} + C_m^{\text{intra}}. \quad (10)$$

The first contribution arises primarily from intercluster contributions and is equal to

$$C_m^{\text{inter}} = \frac{d}{dT} [(\bar{J}^2/6kT)(q^2 - M^2)], \quad (11)$$

while the intracluster contribution is

$$C_m^{\text{intra}} = + \frac{d}{dT} \int d^3r e^{-r^2/2} \frac{\text{Tr}(H_{\text{cl}} e^{-\beta H^{\text{eff}}})}{Z}. \quad (12)$$

Because it reflects the dynamics of a finite number of spins,  $C_m^{\text{intra}}$  has a rounded maximum as a function of temperature which occurs at the characteristic intracluster exchange-interaction energy. On the other hand, the first expression on the right-hand side of Eq. (10) yields a cusp-like contribution to  $C_m$  like that found by EA.

The magnitude of  $C_m^{\text{intra}}$  grows as the number of spins  $N$  in the cluster increases,<sup>14</sup> whereas for large  $N$  the magnitude of  $C_m^{\text{inter}}$  is independent of  $N$ .<sup>7,8</sup> It is because there are two distinct energy scales in the model, corresponding to the strength of the intracluster and intercluster exchange interactions, that the intracluster maximum occurs at a temperature  $T_0$  which is different from—in fact higher than— $T_c$ . At low  $T$ , the intracluster contribution varies as  $e^{-1/T}$  while  $C_m^{\text{inter}}$  is linear in  $T$  as found experimentally.<sup>6</sup>

For clusters in which  $M$  is not strongly temperature dependent, we find from Eq. (9) that, as in previous mean-field theories,<sup>7,8</sup> the susceptibility  $\chi$  has a sharp cusp at  $T_c$ . In this case, the characteristic interaction which determines the behavior of  $\chi$  is the intercluster exchange.

We have performed numerical calculations to study systematically the results of our model for a wide range of parameters. We considered clusters containing  $N \leq 6$  spins coupled by either near-neighbor ferromagnetic or antiferromagnetic exchange interactions. Because the intracluster contribution to the specific heat is smaller for the ferromagnetic than for the antiferromagnetic case,<sup>14</sup> the most favorable results and those which are illustrated here are for antiferromagnetic coupling. We also chose two values of the parameter  $N$ . For the case  $N=3$  the ratio of the exchange constants  $|\bar{J}/J_0| = 0.55$ , and for  $N=6$  this was given by  $=0.32$ . While the parameters were chosen to yield reasonably good agreement with

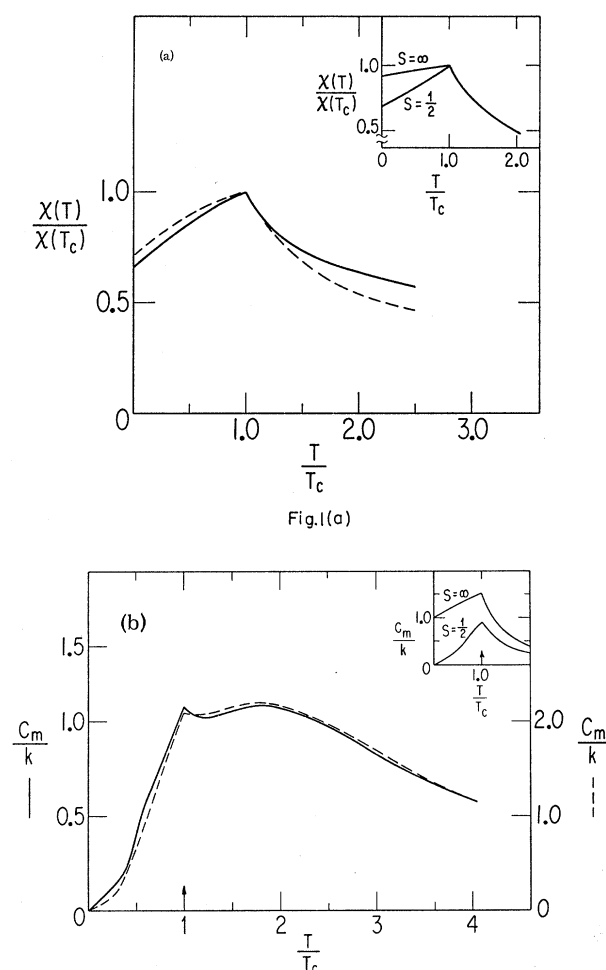


FIG. 1. Temperature dependences of the (a) static susceptibility and (b) specific heat per cluster for antiferromagnetic intracluster exchange interactions with  $N = 3$  (solid curve) and  $N = 6$  (dashed curve). In the insets are plotted the results obtained within the usual mean-field theory.

experiment, the results obtained were not atypical.

In Fig. 1(a) is shown the temperature dependence of the normalized susceptibility  $\chi(T)/\chi(T_c)$ . The solid (dashed) curve is for  $N=3$  ( $N=6$ ). The behavior of  $\chi$  is similar to what is found in the quantum-mechanical generalization of the EA theory,<sup>7,8</sup> which is plotted in the inset. Because of the  $T$  dependence of  $M$ , we find that  $\chi$  deviates slightly from a Curie-law behavior above  $T_c$ .

Finally, in Fig. 1(b) is shown the temperature dependence of  $C_m$ . The solid and dashed curves correspond to  $N=3$  and  $N=6$ , respectively. A broad rounded maximum occurs at a temperature  $T_0 \sim 1.7T_c$ . There is also a small cusp at  $T_c$ .

Fluctuation effects<sup>15</sup> may make this small feature undetectable experimentally. For comparison purposes, the quantum-mechanical EA-model results are plotted in the inset. It is evident that the model represents an improvement over this previous one which has a sharp cusp at  $T_c$  and decreases monotonically above this temperature in disagreement with experiment.

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<sup>13</sup>The essential modification is to introduce a sum over the cluster size  $N$  times the probability distribution  $P(N)$  on the right-hand side of these equations. That they are so little affected comes about physically because in mean-field theory a distribution in the size of averaged-over spins is not of particular significance.

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